

# **Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 17**

## **Animal & Veterinary Services**

### ***Preface***

Under normal conditions, private, local and state agencies provide a variety of services to animals. During emergencies or disasters the normal capabilities and programs may be disrupted, requiring emergency measures to meet the functions of lost, sick, stray, stranded, injured or dead animals.

**Primary Agency**

**Milwaukee County Director of Emergency Public Health**

Milwaukee County, Wisconsin  
**Emergency Support Functions (ESF) # 17 – Animal & Veterinary Services**

**Milwaukee County**

**AGENCIES:**

**Primary**

**Milwaukee County Director of Emergency Public Health**

**Support**

**Fire Departments**

**Law Enforcement Agencies**

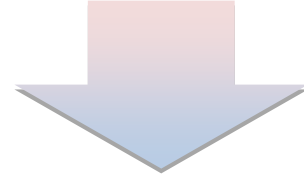
**Milwaukee County Office of Emergency Management (OEM)**

**Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission (MADACC)**

**Public Health (Municipal)**

**Wisconsin Humane Society**

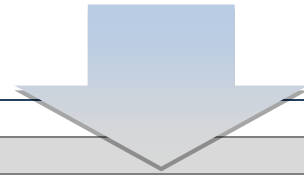
**Wisconsin Veterinary Corps**



**State of Wisconsin**

**Note:**

State support to this ESF may be available in coordination with the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC).



**Federal**

**Coordinating**

- Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of State
- Department of Transportation
- National Veterinary Response Team (NVRT)

**Likely Support Includes:**

Support state governments in the management of masses of unaffiliated volunteers and unsolicited donated goods

*Milwaukee County Office of Emergency Management (OEM)*

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 17

## Animal & Veterinary Services

**PURPOSE.**

1. Identify, manage, and organize the response of resources needed for the care and disposition of domestic pets, livestock, wildlife, and exotic animals following a significant emergency, and to coordinate emergency response and relief assistance with various municipal, county, state and federal agencies.
2. Provide guidance regarding animal related issues caused by an emergency/ disaster.

**POLICIES.**

1. In the interest of public health and safety, the Humane Society will identify and attempt to meet the care and emergency needs of animals following emergencies, disasters.
2. The City of Milwaukee Public Health Commissioner is to serve as the Director of Emergency Public Health during any emergency situation as defined and directed under the Office of the County Executive, Milwaukee County, Executive Order #09-2, dated 6 October, 2009.
3. Priorities will be directed toward animal care functions after human needs are met.
4. Pet and animal owners should have animal care emergency plans and supplies on hand.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES/TASKS BY PHASE	
MILWAUKEE COUNTY DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY PUBLIC HEALTH	
<b>Pre-Emergency</b>	Work with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Maintain this Emergency Support Function (ESF).</li><li>2. Prepare a resource list that identifies the agencies/organizations that are responsible for providing the supplies (medical, food, and other necessary items) needed to treat and care for injured and sick animals during large-scale emergencies and disasters.</li><li>3. Liaison with EOC on animal evacuation and shelter plans.</li><li>4. Maintain inventories of resources and facilities.</li><li>5. Participate in drills, exercises.</li><li>6. Develop emergency action checklists.</li></ol>
<b>Emergency</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Rescue and capture of animals that have escaped confinement, and displaced wildlife.</li></ol>

**PRIMARY DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES/TASKS BY PHASE****MILWAUKEE COUNTY DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY PUBLIC HEALTH**

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Evacuate, shelter and care for injured, sick, and stray animals.</li> <li>3. Dispose of dead animals.</li> <li>4. When notified of an emergency situation; may send a representative to the Milwaukee County EOC, if requested.</li> </ol>
<b>Emergency Operations Center (EOC)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Staff the ESF # 17 position in the EOC.</li> <li>2. Assess and prioritize animal service emergency needs; coordinate public and private sector efforts.</li> <li>3. Identify local facilities and resources available for animal concerns.</li> <li>4. Activate emergency response teams (evacuation, shelter, medical treatment, search and rescue, etc.) as requested.</li> <li>5. Prepare a resource list that identifies the agencies/organizations that are responsible for providing the supplies (medical, food, and other necessary items) needed to treat and care for injured and sick animals during large-scale emergencies and disasters.</li> <li>6. Coordinate the rescue of injured or endangered animals with fish and game departments, wildlife organizations, county cooperative extension office, veterinarians, etc.</li> <li>7. Develop a plan for collection and disposal of dead animals.</li> <li>8. Coordinate the securing and identifying of lost and stray animals.</li> <li>9. Liaison with the American Red Cross and other community based organizations regarding evacuation and shelter plans.</li> <li>10. Coordinate animal related advisories with local public health agency/ies.</li> <li>11. Coordinate animal related advisories with Health Department and the EOC Public Information Officer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide information and/or services for the disposal of dead animals.</li> </ul> </li> <li>12. Establish, maintain contact with State EOC: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Provide information on need for animal care services, facilities.</li> <li>b. Request animal care resources, as requested.</li> </ol> </li> <li>13. Maintain records of cost and expenditures to accomplish this ESF and forward them to the EOC Finance/ Administration Section Chief.</li> </ol>
<b>Recovery Actions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop and prioritize strategies for supporting recovery operations by providing animal and pet control support services, as requested.</li> <li>2. Continue to coordinate with State counterparts as requested, as well as with other governmental and NGOs involved in animal and pet control issues.</li> <li>3. Serve as the point of contact for the public and County agencies for ongoing pet and animal control issues, and arrange for corrective actions as requested.</li> </ol>

<b>SUPPORT DEPARTMENTS RESPONSIBILITIES/TASKS</b>	
<b>Fire Departments</b>	1. Communicate with animal control regarding loose domestic or wild animals.
<b>Law Enforcement Agencies</b>	1. Communicate with animal control regarding loose domestic or wild animals.
<b>Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission (MADACC)</b>	1. Provide animal control services which protect the health, public safety and welfare of people and animals. 2. Rescue and assure safe, temporary shelter, veterinary and human care for stray, unwanted, abandoned, mistreated, and injured animals.
<b>Milwaukee County Office of Emergency Management</b>	1. Coordinate resources for the Director of Emergency Public Health. 2. Implement mutual aid agreements.
<b>Public Health (Municipal)</b>	1. Assist or coordinate the development and distribution animal related health advisories. 2. Provide zoonotic prevention, surveillance, detection, and intervention functions in support of community health.
<b>Wisconsin Veterinary Corps / Humane Society</b>	1. Assist or coordinate the humane care, treatment, and sheltering of companion animals during an emergency.
<b>ATTACHMENTS</b>	None.
<b>REFERENCES</b>	1. Incorporating Household Pets and Service Animals Considerations into Emergency Operations Plans, A Guide for State, Territorial, Tribal, and Local Governments – FEMA – Draft March 2009. 2. Executive Order #09-2, Office of the County Executive, Milwaukee County, dated 6 October, 2009.

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